

Appln. No.: 09/010,919  
Reply to Office Action of July 2, 2003  
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

43. (Currently Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid and an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations and a host;

a first workstation of ~~said the~~ workstations, ~~said the~~ first workstation sending a first signal to ~~said the~~ host signaling a bid in response to an initial offer; and

II 1  
a second workstation of ~~said the~~ workstations, ~~said the~~ second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of a match of said the bid offer and the bid from said the host and sending an acknowledgement of ~~said the~~ received bid match to ~~said the~~ host, ~~said the~~ second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring a time elapsed from reception of ~~said the~~ second signal or from sending ~~said the~~ acknowledgement until ~~said the~~ second workstation receives a ~~fourth third~~ signal, said the fourth third signal comprising a confirmed trade signal from said the host confirming acknowledgement of the match acknowledgement from the second workstation;

~~said host sending at least a third signal to said first workstation and at least said fourth signal to said second workstation, said at least third and said at least fourth signals indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation.~~

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 43, further comprising at least one storage node for recording the completion of a purchase relating to ~~said the~~ bid.

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46. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 43, wherein prior to the transmission of ~~said~~the first signal by ~~said~~the first workstation, ~~said~~the second workstation transmits ~~said~~the initial offer to ~~said~~the host.

47. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 46, wherein ~~said~~the host ~~generating-generates and transmitting-transmits~~ an acknowledgement of ~~said~~the initial ~~bid-offer~~ to ~~said~~the second workstation.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 43, wherein ~~said~~the second workstation further comprises:

11 a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase relating to ~~said~~the ~~bid-offer~~ was not completed upon the elapsed time measured by ~~said~~the confirmation timer exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

51. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 50, wherein ~~said~~the second workstation further comprises:

a display for displaying that a late confirmation was received upon ~~said~~the second workstation receiving ~~said~~the ~~fourth-third~~ signal after ~~said~~the predetermined confirmation timeout period has expired for ~~said~~the purchase.

52. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 43, wherein ~~said~~the host matches bids and offers from ~~said~~the workstations in accordance with predetermined matching criteria.

53. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 52, further comprising:

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an acknowledgement timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of ~~said~~the first signal by ~~said~~the host from ~~said~~the first workstation until reception of ~~said~~the acknowledgement by ~~said~~the host from ~~said~~the second workstation;

a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase was not acknowledged upon the elapsed time measured by ~~said~~the acknowledgement timer exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

54. (Currently Amended) A method for acknowledging the receipt of signals relating to bids and offers in an electronic trading system, ~~said~~the electronic trading system including a host and at least first and second workstations coupled to a network, the method comprising the steps of:

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sending ~~an offer from the first workstation to the host in response to an initial bid to the~~  
host from the second workstation;

receiving ~~the offer~~ a match notification from ~~said~~the host at the second workstation in response to an offer from the first workstation;

sending from the second workstation to ~~said~~the host an acknowledgement of the receipt of the ~~offer~~ match notification;

~~sending-receiving from the host to-at the first and second workstations-workstation~~ an indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation; and

determining when ~~said~~the indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation has not been received during an interval.

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55. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 54, further comprising the ~~steps-step~~ of:

~~sending the initial bid from the second workstation to the host; and~~

receiving an acknowledgement of the initial bid from the host at the second workstation.

56. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 54, wherein the step of determining when ~~said~~the indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation has not been received during an interval comprises the steps of:

11 measuring an elapsed confirmation time from receiving the ~~offer-match~~ notification from the host at the second workstation or from sending from the second workstation to ~~said~~the host an acknowledgement of the receipt of the ~~offer-match~~ notification until the second workstation receives from the host the indication that the host received the acknowledgement of the ~~transaction receipt of the match notification~~ from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the transaction is unconfirmed upon the measured elapsed confirmation time exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

57. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 56, further comprising the step of:

displaying at the second workstation that a late confirmation was received after the predetermined confirmation timeout period has expired in response to the second workstation receiving after the timeout period the indication that the host received the acknowledgement of the receipt of ~~said~~the bid-match notification sent from the second workstation.

58. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 54, further comprising the steps of:

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measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the offer at the host from the first workstation until the host receives the acknowledgement of receipt of the match notification from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the offer transmitted to ~~said~~the second workstation is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

59. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

receiving at a networked processor an offer from a first workstation in response to an initial bid;

11 sending ~~the offer~~ a match notification from the networked processor to a second workstation, the match notification including the offer;

receiving at the networked processor from the second workstation an acknowledgement of a transaction based on ~~the offer~~ match notification;

sending from the networked processor to the first and second workstations an indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement of the transaction; and

receiving an alarm from one of ~~said~~the workstations notifying ~~said~~the networked processor that ~~said~~the indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement was not received by one of ~~said~~the workstations during an interval.

60. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 59 having further computer-executable instructions for performing the following steps:

receiving at the networked processor the initial bid from the second workstation; and

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sending an acknowledgement of the initial bid from the networked processor to the second workstation.

61. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 59 having further computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the offer at the networked processor from the first workstation until the networked processor receives the acknowledgement of the ~~receipt of the offer transaction~~ from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the receipt of the ~~offer-match notification~~ is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

II  
62. (Currently Amended) A first workstation participating in the exchange of signals, the signals including at least a bid and an offer, the first workstation connected to a network, ~~said the~~ network connected to at least a second workstation and a host, ~~said the~~ first workstation comprising:

a receiver for receiving an initial offer;

a processor for processing ~~said the~~ initial offer;

a confirmation timer for measuring time elapsed from ~~said the~~ workstation receiving a match notification signal from ~~said the~~ host or sending a match acknowledgement signal to ~~said the~~ host until ~~said the~~ workstation receives a confirmed trade signal from ~~said the~~ host; and

an output for outputting a first signal to ~~said the~~ network, ~~said the~~ first signal signaling a bid in response to ~~said the~~ initial offer;

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said the receiver also receiving a match notification signal wherein said the match notification signal indicates the acknowledgement of a receipt of said the first signal by said the second workstation, and an unconfirmed trade signal when ~~said~~ said the match acknowledgement was not received by the host during an interval.

63. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps associated with a purchase comprising a bid and an offer comprising:

transmitting to a host via a network an offer from a first workstation in response to a received initial bid;

11 receiving ~~a first acknowledgement~~ match notification from said the host indicating ~~receipt of said a match of the bid and the~~ offer;

measuring the time elapsed from reception of said the match notification ~~first acknowledgement~~ to reception of a ~~second acknowledgement~~ confirmation; and

receiving said the confirmation ~~second acknowledgement~~ from said the host indicating that a second workstation originating said the initial bid has acknowledged said the transmitted offer; and

receiving an alert from ~~said the~~ network when said the confirmation ~~second acknowledgement~~ has not been received during an interval.

64. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 63, having further computer readable instructions ~~comprising for performing~~ the step of:

processing said the ~~second acknowledgement~~ confirmation as an acceptance of said the transmitted offer.

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65. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 43, wherein ~~said~~the third signal ~~and said fourth signal indicate~~ indicates that a transaction relating to ~~said~~the offer-bid is complete.

66. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 54, wherein the indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation signifies the completion of a transaction relating to ~~said~~the bid.

67. (Cancelled)

68. (Currently Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid and an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations and a host;

II  
a first workstation of ~~said~~the workstations, ~~said~~the first workstation sending a first signal to ~~said~~the network signaling an offer in response to an initial bid; and

a second workstation of ~~said~~the workstations, ~~said~~the second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of a match of said the bid and the offer from said network and for sending an acknowledgement of ~~said~~the received offer match to ~~said~~the network host, ~~said~~the second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring a time elapsed from reception of ~~said~~the second signal ~~from said the host~~ or from sending ~~said~~the acknowledgement to ~~said~~the host until ~~said~~the second workstation receives a ~~fourth~~third signal from ~~said~~the host, ~~said~~the ~~fourth~~third signal comprising a confirmed trade signal from the host confirming acknowledgment of the match acknowledgment from the second workstation;



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~~said host sending at least a third signal to said first workstation and at least said fourth signal to said second workstation, said at least third and said at least fourth signals indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation.~~

69. (Cancelled)

70. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 68, further comprising at least one storage node for recording the completion of a purchase relating to ~~said the~~ offer.

71. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 68, wherein prior to the transmission of ~~said the~~ first signal by ~~said the~~ first workstation, ~~said the~~ second workstation transmits ~~said the~~ initial bid to ~~said the~~ host.

II  
72. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 71, wherein ~~said the~~ host ~~generating-generates and transmitting-transmits~~ an acknowledgement of ~~said the~~ initial offer-bid to ~~said the~~ second workstation.

73. (Cancelled)

74. (Cancelled)

75. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 68, wherein ~~said the~~ second workstation further comprises:

a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase relating to ~~said the bid-offer~~ was not completed upon the elapsed time measured by ~~said the~~ confirmation timer exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

76. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 75, wherein ~~said the~~ second workstation further comprises:

a display for displaying that a late confirmation was received upon ~~said the~~ second

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workstation receiving ~~said~~the third-fourth signal after ~~said~~the predetermined confirmation timeout period has expired for ~~said~~purchase.

77. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 68, wherein ~~said~~the host matches bids and offers from ~~said~~the workstations in accordance with predetermined matching criteria.

78. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 77, further comprising:  
an acknowledgement timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of ~~said~~the first signal by ~~said~~the host from ~~said~~the first workstation until reception of ~~said~~the acknowledgement by ~~said~~the host from ~~said~~the second workstation;

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a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase was not acknowledged upon the elapsed time measured by ~~said~~the acknowledgement timer exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

79. (Currently Amended) A method for acknowledging the receipt signals relating to bids and offers in an electronic trading system, ~~said~~the electronic trading system including a host and at least first and second workstations coupled to a network, the method comprising the steps of:

~~sending a bid from the first workstation to the host in response to an initial offer to the~~  
host from the second workstation;

~~receiving the bid~~ a match notification from saidthe host at the second workstation in  
response to a bid from the first workstation;

sending from the second workstation to ~~said~~the host an acknowledgement of the receipt  
of the ~~bid~~ match notification;

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~~sending-receiving~~ from the host to ~~at the first and second workstations~~ workstation an indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation; and

determining when ~~said~~the indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation has not been received during an interval.

80. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 79, further comprising the ~~steps~~step of:

~~sending the initial offer from the second workstation to the host, and~~  
receiving an acknowledgement of the initial offer from the host at the second workstation.

II  
81. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 79, wherein the ~~transaction messages relate to a transaction, said~~ step of determining when ~~said~~the indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation has not been received during an interval comprises the steps of:

measuring an elapsed confirmation time from receiving the ~~bid-match notification~~ from the host at the second workstation or from sending from the second workstation to the host acknowledgment of the receipt of the match notification until the second work station receives from the host the indication that the host received the acknowledgement of the ~~transaction receipt~~ of the match notification from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the transaction is unconfirmed upon the measured elapsed confirmation time exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

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82. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 81, further comprising the step of:

displaying at the second workstation that a late confirmation was received after the predetermined confirmation timeout period has expired in response to the second workstation receiving after the timeout period the indication that the host received the acknowledgement of the receipt of ~~said the offer~~ match notification sent from the second workstation.

83. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 79, further comprising the steps of:

measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the bid at the host from the first workstation until the host receives the acknowledgement of receipt of the match notification from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the bid transmitted to ~~said the~~ second workstation is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

84. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

receiving at a networked processor a bid from a first workstation in response to an initial offer;

sending ~~the bid~~ a match notification from the networked processor to a second workstation, the match notification including the offer;

receiving at the networked processor from the second workstation an acknowledgement of a transaction based on the ~~bid~~ match notification;

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sending from the networked processor to the first and second workstations an indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement of the transaction; and

receiving an alarm from one of ~~said~~the workstations notifying ~~said~~the network that ~~said~~the indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement was not received by ~~said~~the one of ~~said~~the workstations during an interval.

85. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 84 having further computer-executable instructions for performing the following steps:

receiving at the networked processor the initial offer from the second workstation; and  
sending an acknowledgement of the initial offer from the networked processor to the second workstation.

86. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 84 having further computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the bid at the networked processor from the first workstation until the networked processor receives the acknowledgement of the ~~receipt of the bid transaction~~ from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the receipt of the ~~bid~~ match notification is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

87. (Currently Amended) A workstation participating in the exchange of signals, the signals including at least a bid and an offer, the workstation in communication with a host, ~~said~~the host with at least a second workstation, ~~said~~the workstation comprising:

a receiver for receiving an initial bid from ~~said~~the host;

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a processor for processing ~~said~~the initial bid;

a confirmation timer for measuring time elapsed from ~~said~~the workstation receiving a match notification signal or sending a match acknowledgement signal until ~~said~~the workstation receives a confirmed trade signal from ~~said~~the host; and

an output for outputting a first signal to ~~said~~the network, ~~said~~the first signal signaling an offer in response to ~~said~~the initial bid,

~~said~~the receiver also receiving a match notification signal wherein ~~said~~the match notification signal indicates the acknowledgement of a receipt of ~~said~~the first signal by ~~said~~the second workstation and an unconfirmed trade signal when ~~said~~the match acknowledgement was not received by the host during an interval.

II 1  
 88. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps associated with a purchase comprising an offer and a bid comprising:

transmitting to a host a bid from a first workstation in response to a received initial offer;

receiving a ~~first acknowledgement~~ match notification from ~~said~~the host indicating ~~receipt of said a match of the bid and the offer;~~

measuring the time elapsed from reception of ~~said~~the ~~match notification~~ first acknowledgement to reception of a ~~second acknowledgement~~ confirmation;

receiving ~~said~~the ~~second acknowledgement~~ confirmation from ~~said~~the host indicating that a second workstation originating ~~said~~the initial offer has acknowledged ~~said~~the transmitted bid; and

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receiving an alert from ~~said~~the host when ~~said~~the second acknowledgement has not been received during an interval.

89. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 88, having further computer readable instructions comprising for performing the step of: processing ~~said~~the confirmation-second acknowledgement as an acceptance of ~~said~~the transmitted bid.

90. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 68, wherein ~~said~~the third signal and ~~said~~ fourth signal indicate indicates that a transaction relating to ~~said~~the offer is complete.

I1 91. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 79, wherein the indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation signifies the completion of a transaction relating to ~~said~~the offer.

92. (Cancelled)

93. (Currently Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to ~~at least a bid or an offer~~ trading instruments, the system comprising:

~~a network connected to~~ host in communication with workstations ~~and a host~~;

a first workstation of ~~said~~the workstations, ~~said~~the first workstation sending a second transaction message to ~~said~~the host in response to a first transaction message; and

a second workstation of ~~said~~the workstations, ~~said~~the second workstation receiving a third transaction message from ~~said~~the host indicative of a match between saidthe first and second transaction messages and sending an acknowledgement of ~~said~~the received third transaction message to ~~said~~th host, ~~said~~the second workstation having a confirmation timer for

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measuring a time elapsed from reception of ~~said~~the third message or from sending ~~said~~the acknowledgement until ~~said~~the second workstation receives a ~~fifth-fourth~~ message, ~~said fifth~~ signal comprising a confirmed trade signal;

~~said host sending at least a fourth transaction message to said first workstation and at least said fifth transaction message to said second workstation, said at least fourth and said at least fifth transaction messages indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation;~~

wherein prior to the transmission of ~~said~~the second transaction message by ~~said~~the first workstation, ~~said~~the second workstation transmits ~~said~~the first transaction message to ~~said~~the host.

I1  
94. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 93, wherein ~~said~~the ~~at least fourth signal includes a first purchase confirmation~~ confirmed trade signal and ~~said at least fifth signal includes a second~~ confirms completion of a purchase confirmation signal relating to the first transaction.

95. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 93, further comprising at least one storage node for recording the completion of a purchase relating to ~~said~~the first transaction message.

96. (Cancelled)

97. (Cancelled)

98. (Cancelled)



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99. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 98, wherein ~~said the~~ acknowledgement of the receipt of ~~said the~~ second transaction message and ~~said the~~ third transaction message are match notification signals generated by ~~said the~~ host.

100. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid or an offer trading instruments of claim 93, the system comprising:

~~a network connected to workstations and a host;~~

~~a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a second transaction message to said host in response to a first transaction message;~~

~~a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a third transaction message from said host indicative of said second transaction message and for sending an acknowledgement of said received third transaction message to said host;~~

~~said host sending at least a fourth transaction message to said first workstation and at least a fifth transaction message to said second workstation, said at least fourth and said at least fifth transaction messages indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation; wherein said the second workstation further comprises:~~

~~a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from said the first second workstation receiving said a fifth third transaction message indicative of a match between said first and second transaction messages or from sending an acknowledgement of the received fifth transaction message to the host until said the first second workstation receives said a sixth fifth transaction message comprising a confirmed trade signal; and~~

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a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase relating to ~~said~~the first transaction message was not completed upon the elapsed time measured by ~~said~~the confirmation timer exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

101. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 100, wherein ~~said~~the first second workstation further comprises:

a display for displaying that a late confirmation was received upon ~~said~~the second first workstation receiving ~~said~~the fifth sixth transaction message after ~~said~~the predetermined confirmation timeout period has expired for said purchase.

102. (Cancelled)

103. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ system for exchanging signals relating to ~~at least a~~ bid or an offer trading instruments of claim 93, the system host further comprising:

~~a network connected to workstations and a host;~~

~~a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a second transaction message to said host in response to a first transaction message;~~

~~a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a third transaction message from said host indicative of said second transaction message and for sending an acknowledgement of said received third transaction message to said host, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said third transaction message or from sending said acknowledgement of said received third transaction message until said second workstation receives a fifth transaction message, said fifth transaction message comprising a confirmed trade signal;~~

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~~said host sending at least a fourth transaction message to said first workstation and at least said fifth transaction message to said second workstation, said at least fourth and said at least fifth transaction messages indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation;~~

wherein ~~said~~the host further comprises:

a computer for matching at least bids or offers from ~~said~~the workstations in accordance with predetermined matching criteria.

an acknowledgement timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of ~~said~~the second transaction message by ~~said~~the host from ~~said~~the first workstation until reception of ~~said~~the acknowledgement by ~~said~~the host from ~~said~~the second workstation; and

a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase was not acknowledged upon the elapsed time measured by ~~said~~the acknowledgement timer exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

II  
104. (Currently Amended) A method for acknowledging the receipt of signals relating to ~~at least bids or offers~~ trading instruments in an electronic trading system, ~~said~~the electronic trading system including a host and at least first and second workstations coupled to a network, the method comprising the steps of:

sending a first transaction message from the second workstation to the host;

receiving an acknowledgement of the first transaction message from the host at the second workstation;

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sending a second transaction message from the first workstation to the host in response to the first transaction message;

receiving ~~the second transaction~~ a match notification message from ~~said~~ the host at the second workstation, the match notification message indicating a match of the first transaction message and the second transaction message;

sending from the second workstation to ~~said~~ the host an acknowledgement of the receipt of the ~~second transaction~~ match notification message;

sending from the host to the ~~first and second workstations~~ workstation an indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~ the second workstation; and

II  
determining when ~~said~~ the indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~ the second workstation has not been received during an interval at ~~said~~ the second workstation.

105. (Cancelled)

106. (Currently Amended) A method for acknowledging the receipt of signals relating to ~~at least bids or offers~~ trading instruments in an electronic trading system, ~~said~~ the electronic trading system including a host and at least first and second workstations coupled to a network, the method comprising the steps of:

sending a second transaction message from the first workstation to the host in response to a first transaction message from the second workstation;

receiving ~~the second transaction message~~ a match notification signal from ~~said~~ the host at the second workstation, the match notification signal indicating a match of the first transaction message and the second transaction message;

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sending from the second workstation to ~~said~~the host an acknowledgement of the receipt of the ~~second transaction~~ match notification message;

sending from the host to the ~~first and second workstations~~ workstation an indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation,

measuring an elapsed confirmation time from receiving the ~~second transaction~~ match notification message from the host at the second workstation or from sending to the host the acknowledgement of reception of the match notification message until the second workstation receives from the host the indication that the host received the acknowledgement of ~~the transaction~~ reception of the match notification message from the second workstation; and

II storing an indication that the transaction is unconfirmed upon the measured elapsed confirmation time exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period ~~wherein the transaction messages relate to a transaction.~~

107. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 106, further comprising the step of:

displaying at the second workstation that a late confirmation was received, after the predetermined confirmation timeout period has expired in response to the second workstation receiving after the timeout period the indication that the host received the acknowledgement of the receipt of ~~said~~reception of the match notification ~~first transaction~~ message sent from the second workstation.

108. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for acknowledging the receipt signals relating to at least bids or offers in an electronic trading system~~ of according to claim 106 further comprising the steps of:

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measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the second transaction message at the host from the first workstation until the host receives the acknowledgement of reception of the match notification message from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the ~~second transaction~~ match notification message transmitted to ~~said~~ the second workstation is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

109. (Cancelled)

110. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

receiving at a networked processor a first transaction message from a second workstation;

11  
sending an acknowledgement of the first transaction message from the networked processor to the second workstation;

receiving at the networked processor a second transaction message from a first workstation in response to the first transaction message;

11  
sending ~~the second transaction~~ a match notification message from the networked processor to the second workstation;

receiving at the networked processor from the second workstation an acknowledgement of a transaction based on the ~~second transaction~~ match notification message ;

11  
sending from the networked processor to the first and second workstations an indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement of the transaction; and

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receiving an alarm from one of ~~said~~the workstations notifying ~~said~~the networked processor that ~~said~~the indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement was not received by one of ~~said~~the workstations during an interval.

111. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 110 having further computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the second transaction message at the networked processor from the first workstation until the networked processor receives the acknowledgement of the receipt of the ~~second transaction~~ match notification message from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the receipt of the second transaction message is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

112. (Currently Amended) A first workstation participating in the exchange of signals, the signals including at least a bid or an offer, the first workstation connected to a network, ~~said~~the network connected to at least a second workstation and a host, ~~said~~the first workstation comprising:

a receiver for receiving ~~a first transaction message~~ messages;

a processor for processing ~~said~~the messages ~~first transaction message~~ coupled to the receiver;

a confirmation timer for measuring time elapsed from ~~said~~the workstation receiving a match notification message from ~~said~~the host or sending a match acknowledgement message to ~~said~~the host until ~~said~~the workstation receives a confirmed trade message from ~~said~~the host; and

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an output for outputting ~~a first signal to said host, said first signal signaling a second transaction message in response to said first transaction message~~ messages coupled to the processor;

~~said receiver also receiving a match notification message from said host wherein said match notification message indicates the acknowledgement of a receipt of said second transaction message by said second workstation and said receiver receiving an alert from said host when said host has not received the acknowledgement of said second transaction message after a predetermined interval.~~

II 113. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps associated with a purchase comprising:

transmitting to a host a second transaction message from a first workstation in response to a received first transaction message;

receiving ~~a first acknowledgement~~ match notification from said the host indicating receipt of ~~said the second transaction message and a match between the first and second transaction messages;~~

measuring the time elapsed from reception of ~~said the match notification first acknowledgement or from sending an acknowledgment to the host acknowledging reception of the match notification~~ to reception of ~~a second acknowledgement confirmation;~~ and

receiving ~~said second acknowledgement the confirmation~~ from said the host indicating that a second workstation originating ~~said the first transaction message~~ has acknowledged ~~said second transaction the match notification message;~~



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and receiving an alert from ~~said~~the host when ~~said~~the host has not received the acknowledgement of ~~said second transaction~~ the match notification message after a predetermined interval.

114. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 113, having further computer readable instructions comprising the step of:

11 processing ~~said second acknowledgement~~ the confirmation as an acceptance of a transaction relating to ~~said~~the second transaction message.

115. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 93, wherein ~~said third signal~~ and ~~said~~the ~~fourth signal message indicates~~ indicate that a transaction relating to ~~said~~the second transaction message is complete.

116. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 104, wherein the indication that the host acknowledges the acknowledgement from ~~said~~the second workstation signifies the completion of a transaction relating to ~~said~~the first transaction message.

117. (Cancelled)

118. (Cancelled)

119. (Cancelled)

120. (Cancelled)

12 processing  
121. (New) A method for confirming a transaction in an electronic trading system, the electronic trading system including a networked processor in communication with a first workstation and a second workstation, the method comprising:

receiving a match notification message at a first workstation, the match notification message indicating a match between a first trade order associated with the first workstation and a

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second trade order associated with the second workstation, the first and second trade orders each selected from the group consisting of a bid and an offer; and

timing a confirmation period between one of receiving the match notification message at the first workstation and sending to the networked processor an acknowledgment of reception of the match notification message, and receiving a confirmation message from the networked processor.

122. (New) A method for confirming a transaction in an electronic trading system, the electronic trading system including a networked processor in communication with a first workstation and a second workstation, the method comprising

receiving at the networked processor a first transaction message from the second workstation;

receiving at the networked processor a second transaction message from the first workstation in response to the first transaction message;

sending a match notification message from the networked processor to the first and second workstations;

receiving at the networked processor from the first workstation an acknowledgement of a transaction based on the match notification message;

receiving at the networked processor from the second workstation an acknowledgement of a transaction based on the match notification message;

sending from the networked processor to the first and second workstations an indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgements of the transaction; and

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receiving an alarm from one of the first and second workstation notifying the networked processor that the respective indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgements was not received by the one of the first and second workstation during an interval.

*I 2  
Concluded* 123. (New) The method of claim 122 further comprising:  
measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the second transaction message at the networked processor from the first workstation until the networked processor receives the acknowledgement of the receipt of the match notification message from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the receipt of the second transaction message is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

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